

Message



Focus on Science

by: Justin D. Cooper

n this issue we are pleased to be able to present a focus on the natural sciences. Although many people don't realize it, this is an area of strength for Redeemer University College. As you read the features in this issue of Images, you may well be surprised at what Redeemer has to offer in this area. The sciences are an essential part of the Christian liberal arts and science program we are so well

known for.

This past October I was privileged to be present at a meeting of the AUCC (Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada) where the value of a liberal arts and sciences education was being promoted, in part because there is such an emphasis on the sciences and professional programs in Canadian universities that the humanities are often underappreciated.

Ironically, the opposite is often the case in the Christian community. Somehow the sciences do not receive the attention and emphasis they deserve when compared to other areas of academic endeavour. There seems to be a hesitation to enter this area of scholarship, even though we confess that this creation was made by God and belongs to him!

In our contemporary culture perhaps we have become too influenced by an overemphasis on scientific-technological prowess which has the potential to threaten our humanity and our Christian faith. In reaction to such claims, Christians may become alienated and withdraw from the sciences out of a fear of being caught up in a false orientation which is hostile to the God of creation.

Over against such views, at Redeemer University College we are busy working to rediscover the proper place and calling of scientific inquiry as one of God's created gifts. We seek to provide our students with a basic training which can lead to teaching, graduate study or a professional position through which they can be engaged in reclaiming this area of endeavour for Christ and His service.

This focus stems in part from our emphasis on providing a Christian liberal arts and science education. One of the strengths of this kind of an academic program is its encyclopedic approach. The full range of disciplines is included in our core curriculum, thereby exposing students to the diversity of God's creation during the course of their studies. In this way, they come to appreciate the uniqueness and interrelatedness of the various dimensions of God's handiwork.

But the presence of the sciences in our academic program also has to do with our determination to offer a well-rounded set of majors and with our intent give an appropriate place on our campus to God's gifts of scientific inquiry to His praise and service. Redeemer University College provides a rich environment for students interested in pursuing the sciences.

We are thankful to be able to celebrate the sciences in our academic program. And we look forward to supporting their continued growth and development in the service of Jesus Christ, both at Redeemer University College and in the Christian community at large.

We are busy working to rediscover the proper place and calling of scientific inquiry as one of God's created gifts.

Contents

Inside

| President's Message | 2 |
|---------------------|---|
| Campus News | 4 |

Ellens appointed as new Vice President (Academic); Update on varsity athletic teams; HSR bus service comes to Redeemer; Open House attracts scores of business people;



Help us keep our mailing list current. Please inform us of any address change by completing this form and sending it to: Redeemer University College, 777 Garner Road East Ancaster, ON L9K 1J4 or e-mail us at images@redeemer.on.ca. Thanks.

Entrops

Tim Wolfert '87, Darren Lampson '96

Designer Darren Lampson

CONTRIBUTORS

Rita Klein-Geltink, Dave Kruisselbrink '93, Frances Manias-Jackson '96, Marie Stevens '03, Doreen Van der Heide '92

> EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD Rose Bouwers '96, Jack Klooster '97, Mark Van Beveren

Images is published three times per year by the Communications and Media Relations Department of Redeemer University College in conjunction with the Alumni Association.

Ideas and opinions expressed in *Images* may not necessarily reflect those of the editors, the Alumni Association or the university college. Letters and editorial comments are welcomed. We reserve the right to edit submissions for content or brevity.

Editorial communications can be sent to The Editor, *Images* Redeemer University College 777 Garner Road East, Ancaster, Onatrio L9K 1J4

Tel: (905) 648-2131 X 4292 Fax: (905) 648-2134

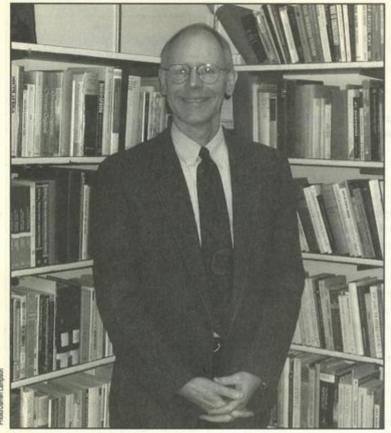
images@redeemer.on.ca Vol. 16 No 2.



Redeemer Images—Canada Post Sales Agreement # 40056170. Canada Post Publication. Return to: Redeemer University College

Return to: Redeemer University College 777 Garner Road East Ancaster, ON L9K 1J4

Cover: The sciences at Redeemer encompass many different subjects, but the focus is always on students and creation's big picture. Digital images by Darren Lampson



Dr. Jacob Ellens will assume his new duties on July 1, 2002

Ellens Appointed as Vice President Academic

he Board of Governors of Redeemer University College is pleased to announce that Dr. Jacob Ellens has been appointed as Vice President (Academic), effective July 1, 2002. Dr. Ellens replaces Dr. Wytse van Dijk, who will return to teaching at Redeemer after serving as Interim VP (Academic) since August, 2000.

In accepting this position, Dr. Ellens becomes a key member of the senior management team of Redeemer. As the chief academic officer, the VP (Academic) is responsible for the faculty, academic program, library and research centres, and all other aspects of academic affairs. One of the key roles of the VP (Academic) is to direct and promote excellence in teaching and scholarship, and to ensure that the work of faculty reflects the spiritual direction and commitment of the university.

Dr. Ellens first started teaching at Redeemer in 1987 and is currently Associate Professor of History and Associate Dean (Foundations Division). He earned his B.A. from Trinity Christian College, Palos Heights, Illinois, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Toronto. Among his areas of research, Dr. Ellens has studied the secularization of England's Oxford University, and he sees lessons that can be drawn from that experience: "Many of Oxford's colleges were founded as early as the 13th Century, based on Charters that included as their stated purpose to promote Godliness and good learning.' I think that captures something of Redeemer's role, even now in the 21st Century. The key is to remain faithful to our mission as a Christ-centred academic community, in which our teaching and scholarship will be rightly ordered toward God and His glory."

"We are very excited that Dr. Ellens has accepted this new appointment," notes President Cooper. "We are looking forward to his contributions in the development and implementation of an academic program that develops the gifts of faculty, enriches the experience of students, and reflects our mission as we seek to honour our Lord here at Redeemer."

The search for a new VP (Academic)

Coming Events

March 12 Ministers' Conference

Dr. Marva Dawn of Regent College in Vancouver is the keynote speaker. She has written 9 books, including Reaching Out Without Dumbing Down and A Royal Waste of Time. Dr. Dawn will be speaking on worship. The conference, which runs from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm is directed towards ministers, although all are welcome. Conference fee

is \$20 (includes lunch). Please contact the President's Office for more information and to register.

Main Stage Play March 19-23

The Joshua Project is an original musical collective based on the book of Joshua. Contemporary songs, mythic stories, poems and scenes make up this profound exploration of what it means to have faith courage, strength and hope at the dawn of the 21st century.

Directed by Tom Carson. In the Auditorium Preview: Tuesday, March 19, 8 pm.

Matinee: Wednesday, March 20, 12:00 pm Performances: Thursday - Saturday, March

21-23, 8:00 pm

Tickets: \$12; Students/Seniors: \$10; Matinee/Preview: \$6

April 4 Poetry Reading

Robert Kroetsch will read from some of his work in the Boardroom at 4:00 pm. Admission is free. Made possible in part by the support of the Canada Council for the Arts. was challenging, but rewarding. As Dr. Cooper points out, "We reviewed many candidates for this position and interviewed two finalists who were well qualified and had many gifts to offer. We are thankful that God has once again demonstrated His faithfulness by providing skilled candidates, and by leading the decision making process."

Please pray for Dr. Ellens as he takes up his new task here at Redeemer in July of 2002.

Athletics Update Fall 2001

Women's Soccer Mr. Tom Sauder, 3rd year, OCAA Central West Region

Season Summary: The 2001 season capped the most successful season yet for the Royals under the direction of Coach Sauder. Finishing with a record of 4 wins, 3 losses and 3 ties in the tough Central West Region, the Royals just missed out on the provincial championships despite their outstanding effort. Congratulations once again to Coach Sauder for his 3rd consecutive Coach of the Year honour, and to Anita Kralt for her second Goalkeeper of the Year award. All-stars Sandra Vandervinne and Sharon van Staalduinen are also to be commended!

Men's Soccer Mr. Dave Mantel '00, 2nd year, OCAA Central West Region

Season Summary: Despite much improved play, the Royals struggled to put together complete games and ultimately finished with 0 wins, 11 losses, 1 tie. What is promising, however, is the calibre of team play and the attitude of the players that seems to be better each year. Congratulations to league all-stars Peter Westra and Peter Reid.

Men's Hockey Mr. Wes Laverty '02, 1st year, Niagara Christian Hockey League

Hockey Mid-Season Summary: With 9 wins and 3 losses the Royals are once again in the running for the NCHL title. Buckle up hockey fans, the best is yet to come in the second half of the season!

Men's Volleyball Mr. Nathan Siebenga '01 1st Year, OCAA West Region

Volleyball Mid-Season Summary: 6 wins, 2 losses, 1st in the West Region; Colin DeRaaf is currently sitting in 9th position in the league for offensive scoring with a 3.6 ppg average. The Royals are definitely on the road to the OCAA Championships for the 3td consecutive year.

Women's Basketball, Mr. Moses Silva, 2nd Year, OCAA West Region

Basketball Mid-Season Summary: 3 wins, 1 loss, 2nd in the newly formed West Region; Anita Kralt has improved to 5th in league scoring, averaging 16.8 ppg, and Marie Stevens is making an impact in this her third season. She is 8th in league scoring, averaging 14.8 ppg.

Women's Volleyball, Mr. Darren Larose, 1st Year OCAA West Region

Volleyball Mid-Season Summary: 4 wins, 5 losses has the Royals sitting in the middle of the pack of the West Region. Redeemer is hosting the provincial championships February 28 - March 2 this year, and the Royals are determined to be a part!

Men's Basketball, Mr. Moses Silva, 4th Year OCAA West Region

Basketball Mid-Season Summary: Veteran Ryan Schipper is at the helm this season as the Royals battle it out on the court. Ryan is sitting in 13th position in league leading scorers averaging 17.5 ppg. Transfer student Eric Bulthuis is contributing both offensively and on the boards averaging 16.2 ppg. The Royals are in 6th place in the West Region with a 2 win, 4 loss record to date.

April 12 Concert Choir

The Spring Concert of the Concert Choir at 8:00 pm in the Auditorium. The choir will be performing the *Liebeslieder Waltzes* by Johannes Brahms. Featured guests include Valerie Tryon on the Piano, and members fo the ensemble "Chamber Works."

Call the Box Office to order tickets \$16 each; Students/Seniors \$14.

Alumni Choir Concert May 10-11

The Alumni Choir, under the direction of Rob Boer '92 (DMA candidate, University of Iowa), performs works by Mozart, Mendelssohn, Hogan, Sweelink, and others. Times and location to be determined. Call the Alumni Office or check the web site for more details in the weeks to come.

May 25 Commencement

Dr. Joel Nederhood, former Director of the Christian Reformed Church's Back to God Hour radio ministry, is the featured speaker as the Class of 2002 graduates. Friends and family are welcome to share in the celebration at 2:00 pm in the Auditorium.

Open House Attracts Business Community

n November 22nd, 2001, Redeemer University College hosted its first Business Open House, showcasing its programs and facilities to business leaders from across Hamilton. Invitations were extended to members of the local business community and the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce. More than 120 people attended, many of whom were not familiar with Redeemer. Mingling and munching on wonderful appetizers prepared by Redeemer's Conference Services staff were representatives from a wide range of businesses and media outlets, as well as local politicians from all levels of government. The presidents of McMaster University, Mohawk College and Columbia International College also attended the event.

Dr. Cooper gave an overview of Redeemer, its programs, services and the links it has with the business community. Several guests toured the campus and had the opportunity to witness choir and theatre rehearsals and a student art exhibit. There were also a number of displays by several of Redeemer's corporate partners and internal departments.

The Open House was an initiative of the 2nd Annual Business Campaign, the goal of



Guests at the Open House gathered in the Centre Foyer

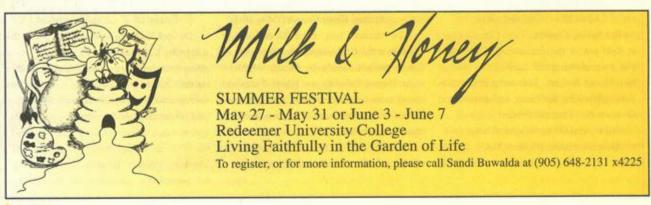
which includes broadening the awareness of Redeemer within the corporate sector. "The true value of the event was the opportunity for local businesses to obtain a first-hand look at Redeemer and the opportunities for creating partnerships with the university," notes Dr. Diane Dent, Redeemer's Director of Development, who coordinated the event.

The Open House is just one of the ways Redeemer is successfully raising its profile in the business community. In recent years, Redeemer has hosted other Chamber and Rotary events, and the Advancement Division has enlisted the service of several individuals from prominent local businesses to serve on a Business Advisory Committee to offer guidance and feedback on various promotional and fundraising initiatives.

All Aboard the Bus

long-held dream was realized this fall when Hamilton City Council unanimously supported a motion to bring Hamilton Street and Rail (HSR) bus service to Redeemer's campus. The project, which began on November 5, has HSR providing shuttle bus service from the campus to "connection points," which allow students access to the entire city-wide bus routes.

Redeemer has long sought bus service for its students, staff and faculty. For many years, it was told that the campus was too isolated and the number of potential riders too small to justify expanding service to the campus. In the past, Redeemer students wishing to use the HSR needed to







Andy McLaughlin of HSR, Murray Ferguson, Dr. Cooper, Rosalee Roth, and Student Senate President Emily Houweling wait with Rex to step on the bus.

find their own way to Glancaster Rd., 1.6 km east of the campus on Garner Rd.

Last spring, however, then Student Senate Vice-President Matt Heinbuch '01 began making inquiries to HSR about revisiting the idea. "Matt did so much work on this," notes van Staalduinen, "that it should really be named the Heinbuch Bus Stop." Redeemer continued negotiating with HSR throughout the summer, and Student Senate remained active participants throughout the process. When the motion was passed at Council, several members of Student Senate were recognized in the Council Gallery by Murray Ferguson, the Councillor representing Redeemer.

This is a pilot plan for the 2001-02 and the 02-03 academic years. "Because bus service didn't begin until November, after most students had already made living and transportation arrangements for the year, it will be difficult to accurately gauge how many students will take advantage of the service," notes Rosalee Roth '02, the current Senate Vice-President.

The long-term goal is to have an open access, permanent stop on campus, with regular service throughout the day and on weekends. "Limited shuttle bus service is not what we ideally want," concedes Roth. "It is, however, a logical and necessary first step in securing full-time service."

Like students at McMaster and Mohawk, all Redeemer students who pay Student Senate fees receive an HSR bus pass, valid for the entire academic year. The cost of the pass for this year is covered through a portion of the Student Recreation Fee, a mandatory annual fee administered by Student Senate.

With files from The Crown, Redeemer's student newspaper

Board of Governors -Now & Then

t Redeemer's Annual Membership Meeting on October 13, 2001, Dr. Cooper thanked the six members of the Board of Governors who have completed their terms of service: Erica DeWit, Tom Meyer, Ralph Norg, Diane Plug, Harry

VanderKooij, and Theresa VanderSluis.

Redeemer also welcomed new Board members Anton Brink, Garth Cubitt, K. Allan Cuzen, Oscar De Boer, Arthur Dubbeldam, Brian Verheul, and Henry Wiersema, who were elected that day to serve a three-year term.

The Board of Governors, elected by members of Redeemer University College, provides leadership to the administration of Redeemer and makes informed decisions on issues such as campus development, budget, and tuition, based on the recommendations of the Senate and other committees.

The Annual Meeting was also an opportunity to recognize a significant milestone in Redeemer's history. Twentyfive years ago, in 1976, the Ontario Christian College Association (OCCA) was founded. Starting with not much more than idea and rock-solid reliance on God's faithfulness, its Board was mandated to start a Christian liberal arts and sciences college in Ontario. It was the OCCA which oversaw the development of Redeemer University College from an idea to an institution, securing the first provincial charter in 1980. Several members of the original OCCA Board were recognized during the luncheon, and thanked for their contribution to the development of Christian higher education in Ontario.

For 25 years Redeemer has relied on, and benefitted from, the commitment of its support community. We thank God for His faithfulness over the years in providing dedicated and talented people who are willing to give so much of their time and expertise.



We also recognized Redeemer's solicitor, Mr. Bert Bakker, who has served both OCCA and Redeemer for the past 25 years.

The Natural Sciences at Redeemer

More than Microscopes & Molecules

by: Tim Wolfert

nita Brinkman is perplexed — the fourth year student from Chatham, ON is completing a biology lab assignment, and it's not coming easy. Garbed in lab coat and making notations on graph paper, she is trying to decipher just how cells divide. Although she looks the part of scientist-in-training, "This is not what I had in mind when I came to Redeemer," she says. Brinkman, an English, History and Theatre Arts major, has her sights on being an actor, or maybe a writer, or perhaps even a teacher, but definitely NOT a lab rat.

Just as befuddled is Justin Renkema, a fourth-year Honours Biology student from Blenheim, ON. He is facing a mountain of reading for his Post-Soviet Governments and Politics course.

God made this world so interconnected that nothing happens in a vacuum. Students begin to develop a mindset that helps them focus on the big picture.

"There are times when I really wonder if any of this is ever going to be useful to me," he says. Renkema will put that hypothesis to the test next year when he hopes to begin a Masters in Science Program in Crop

Science at the University of Guelph.

The arts and the sciences. In some ways, it is academia's own version of the two solitudes. In much contemporary university education, few students who focus on one take any more than a token course or two in the other. An increasingly specialized world has spawned curricula that have focused on progressively paragraphs and the state of the

narrower subject matter. For many people, that's not a problem; after all, who cares if you can conjugate the verb avoir when what you really want to learn is how to isolate carcinogenic compounds in a soil sample.

That focus on science, to the exclusion of other disciplines, runs counter to the traditional liberal arts and science education found at institutions like Redeemer. And while they may not always appreciate every non-science course they take, many of Redeemer's science graduates are quick to credit the inclusive education they received as one of the strengths of their experience.

Liberal Arts and Sciences

The heart of Redeemer's curriculum lies in its Core Requirements. All students are required to complete courses which cover a range of disciplines from Fine Arts to Philosophy to the Natural Sciences. The core courses are required in order to "[form] the context for all other learning and ...[provide] a general education" (2000 - 02 Academic Calendar, p. 32). For mathematics and science majors, that could mean as many as 8 - 10 non-science courses over a 40 course program.

Redeemer's science faculty endorse this approach. "This broad definition of the liberal arts helps students to identify the role of science and technology in society," notes Dr. Henry Brouwer, Professor of Chemistry. "It is also a creational approach — God made this world so interconnected that nothing happens in a vacuum. Students begin to develop a mindset that helps them focus on the big picture."

This desire can be seen in some of the faculty's areas of professional interest. Redeemer's faculty do research, publish, and attend conferences in areas as diverse as nuclear physics, graph theory, entomology, and sediment remediation. But they also do extensive work in understanding the foundational and relational nature of science studies. For example, Dr. Jitse VanderMeer, Professor of Biology, has spent much of his career studying the relationship between faith and science, especially in his work at the Pascal Centre, a research centre sponsored by Redeemer. And Dr. Brouwer and Mrs. Jennifer Chiang, Instructor in Biology, work frequently with the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools in promoting science education.

Graduate School Success

For Redeemer students, the pay-off from that liberal arts context is a rich, well-rounded education. And those science



Fervone Holowenko at work at the Alberta Research Council



Redeemer's Natural Sciences faculty and staff. From left: Dr. Brouwer, Dr. Kevin Vander Meulen, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Dr. Wytse van Dijk, Professor of Physics and Mathematics, Dr. VanderMeer, Mrs. Jennifer Chiang, Mr. Ron vanderHeiden, Lab Instructor, Dr. Gary Chiang. Redeemer also relies on a number of sessional and part-time instructors each year.

students who do look to continue their studies in a specialized field are finding themselves well-prepared for the rigours of graduate school and a career in the sciences. Andrew Vreugdenhil x'90 completed a Ph.D in inorganic chemistry in 1996 at McGill University and has recently accepted a position at Trent University. For him, the benefits of a liberal arts education can be found in some of the skills that he developed: "I learned to write in English 103/104 and learned to think in Philosophy 121. I learned why the world is the way it is in 100- and 200-level history courses. These courses...were as much a part of my real work as the physics, math and chemistry courses that trained me in my chosen discipline."

The ability to communicate, to think critically, and to put material into some sort of context are hallmarks of a classical liberal education, and those skills are just as important for the natural sciences as they are for the humanities and social sciences. Deanna van Dijk '91, Assistant Professor at Calvin College, earned Masters (93) and Doctoral (98) degrees in geography from the University of Waterloo. She believes that "the liberal arts emphasis creates a better ability to think and communicate broadly than a narrowly-focused science program does."

With the ability to think and communicate comes adaptability, one of those great "transferable skills" needed in a rapidly changing workforce. Fervone Holowenko '97 graduated with a M.Sc. in environmental microbiology from the University of Alberta. Now a research scientist with the Alberta Research Council, she points out even in her relatively narrow area of research, petroleum microbiology, the benefits of a liberal arts education are evident: "I am constantly faced with having to learn new techniques and stretch myself into new knowledge, both scientific and otherwise. Having a basis in liberal arts has

The ability to communicate,
to think critically, and to put
material into some sort of
context are hallmarks of a
classical liberal education, and
those skills are just as
important for the natural
sciences as they are for the
humanities and social sciences.

made me more adaptable to learning new things and to appreciate the vast amount of things there are to learn."

Sciences students also take from Redeemer the ability to develop a perspective on their work. For some, it highlights the limits of their discipline, and the ways to address those limits. "I have never thought of science as being the only or best way of understanding the world. I...think that the range of required and optional courses gave me a better background for being a

scientist," says van Dijk.

Wendy Willmore '98 will complete medical school this May at Queen's University. For her, understanding the perspective is essential because it affects the purpose: "I believe it is unwise to study science without knowing the basics of its historic and philosophical context; I do not believe it is possible to truly do science well as a Christian without it."

Beyond its effect on students, this inclusive curriculum also strengthens the institution as a whole, helping to build bridges between people from a variety of academic interests. The experience of Brenda Hevink '99 is a model for the preparation found in a liberal arts education - she left Redeemer with a math major and a missions minor, spent two years teaching English in the Western Ukraine, and is now enrolled in a Masters of Divinity program at Calvin Seminary. This will serve as a springboard for her career as a university chaplain or instructor. She attributes the sense of community that she felt at Redeemer in part to its broad scope of studies. "Not only did I have friends of different disciplines and different ways of thinking, I felt like I was an important part of the community. I appreciated that other people needed to take science classes. And they probably appreciated that I needed to take 'normal' classes. That way we could understand each other better, appreciate different perspectives, and feel like a part of the community. [The goal of my education] became developing my gifts and discovering my interests and joys within that community."

The 'What' and 'Why' of Science Education

At its heart, the study of science in a liberal arts and science framework is not so much about knowledge as it is about wisdom. It is an education that is not content to distribute facts



Dr. Deanna van Dijk consulting maps at Calvin College

to students, much like a photocopier disperses information by merely copying it onto passive receptacles. Instead, it seeks to empower students to become dynamic, active learners, life-long seekers of truth who wrestle with the material about which they truly are passionate.

Wisdom and the truth are not the sole purview of any one discipline or division. The liberal arts context of the science program at Redeemer helps shape an education that, as it is for arts and humanities students, is engaged in finding a deeper understanding of the Author of all Truth and the Source of all Wisdom. "I suppose that speaks to the 'uniqueness' of Redeemer," notes Holowenko. "The philosophy that directs Redeemer is guided by the belief that [it] is preparing future leaders and workers in God's Kingdom. All aspects of life in the Redeemer community strive towards this higher purpose and, as a result, Redeemer is fundamentally different from secular schools."

Many Redeemer science students will seek wisdom through a microscope's lens, in an elegant algebraic equation, or in the careful observation of God's physical creation. But they may also find wisdom in an obscure manuscript on Russian political theory or in studying the dizzying complexity of human relationships. The important part is that they will be seeking. Like all Christians, each is striving, as Wendy Willmore says, "to [become] a better person, with a greater understanding of God's world, and as a result, with a greater desire to glorify Him."

Sizing Up the Program

nother defining characteristic of Redeemer's science program is its size. With 6 full time instructors offering 5 majors, Natural Sciences and Mathematics is a rather cozy division, and as a result, there are limits to what Redeemer can offer science students. For example, chemistry major such as Vreugdenhil have to complete their program at another university. "Scheduling courses, and cycling them so that senior students have a chance to take all that we do offer, can be a challenge," notes Dr. Gary Chiang, Professor of Biology. Ironically, this is compounded by having to fit in all those arts and humanities students who need to take science courses for their Core Requirements.

While acknowledging that more "home grown" course offerings would be preferable, Redeemer students have taken advantage of opportunities to round out their education at other institutions. "Most of us had to pick up extra courses at McMaster University or the Au Sauble Institute for Environmental Studies. These experiences were...usually very beneficial," recalls Holowenko.

However, there is another side to the size equation. Small class sizes, and the relationships which the students and faculty develop over years of being in class together, has enhanced the educational experience of many Redeemer science grads. Trent University's Vreugdenhil points out that "I have had the opportunity to work for and study at four other universities and I have yet to find an environment which offers the same opportunities for interaction with professors and instructors. I take every opportunity to point out that I had the pleasure of taking first year chemistry in a class of 12, whereas at McGill there are 800 students enrolled and at Trent there are 200 students enrolled in Chemistry 100."

The benefits of this dynamic can be incredible for students. "The small classes ensured participation and involvement, which developed my confidence in expressing my thoughts and ideas, and allowed the easy flow of ideas and concepts," recalls Holowenko. Kyle Spyksma '01 is studying for a Masters in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences at McGill University in Montreal. While at Redeemer, he worked for Dr. Wytse van Dijk as a Teaching Assistant during the academic year, and as a Research Assistant during the summer, a position funded in part by the Natural Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada. He sees those experiences as unique compared to most of his colleagues at grad school: "I was a very lucky person to be one professor's 'pet student' throughout my time at Redeemer. That relationship was a bonus that I don't think I would have had at another institution."



Learning the Language of the Word

Ben and Melanie Westerveld Share *la Parole de Dieu* by: Marie Stevens

he story is not an uncommon one. A young man takes his family to a strange place, learns a new language and spreads the Word of God to the people there. What is perhaps unique about Bernard (Ben) '93 and Melanie (Beck) Westerveld '93, is that they have done so in their own country. The couple, both of whom were raised in Southern Ontario, are living in Quebec City where Ben is pastoring a church — in French.

How did Ben and Melanie become involved in the Frenchspeaking Reformed Church of Quebec? In an article submitted
to a church newspaper, Ben wrote, "I had always viewed Quebec
in light of its political problems. The Lord changed all that.
During the referendum of October 1995, while I was a student
at Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, the Lord
opened my eyes to see that it did not really matter if Quebec
stayed part of Canada or separated. What mattered was not the
kingdoms of men, but the kingdom of God... I prayed that night.
I told the Lord that if he wanted me to preach the gospel of grace
in Quebec, I was ready to go."

While at Redeemer, Ben's attempt to learn French proved unsuccessful. He then attended Westminster, which didn't have any French language requirement. Unfortunately, it left him ill-equipped to preach the gospel to Francophones. In July of 1999, after his theological studies were completed, and still convicted about their calling, Ben and Melanie made the move to Quebec, where Ben had been accepted as a candidate with the Église Réformée du Quebec (ERQ).

To improve their language skills, the Westervelds studied French at Laval University, in Quebec City. After a year, Ben began to minister at the church, while continuing his French studies. Melanie caught on to the language much more quickly than Ben. He remarks wryly that people have commented that while he has studied, she's the one who's learned. Despite the occasional lingual slip-ups (in a French Bible study, he prayed that God would bless them, using the French word blesser, which

means to strike), Ben has found the work rewarding. "God uses the preaching of the Word to change lives . . . It's really encouraging." He has also been encouraged by the fact that many of his congregants are bilingual and very understanding. Many, in fact, respect what the Westervelds are doing and admire their courage. Others are just delighted to have the opportunity to practice their English on a real Anglophone.

In March, 2001, Ben was officially installed as a Pastor-

Evangelist at the Église Réformée St.-Marc. The reformed community in Quebec is very small; St. Mark is one of just six congregations in the ERQ. About forty to fifty people attend St. Mark's each week, which meets in a rented Anglican church. Many members of the ERQ were converted

I told the Lord that if he wanted me to preach the gospel of grace in Quebec, I was ready to go.

during the seventies under para-church organizations such as the campus ministry Navigators. A challenge that now faces the church in Quebec is passing the faith on to the new generation.

The Westervelds and their four young children love the beautiful city, and have been blessed by supportive friends and strengthened by the challenges of language and culture. The prayers given on behalf of them are being answered.

Marie Stevens is a third-year Honours English major from Palmerston, ON



REDEEMI

Alumni top Varsity in Volleyball

n January 11, 2002, a number of alumni returned to the volleyball court to show their stuff to the current varsity teams. Although both matches got off to slow starts as the former stars found their game legs, experience and tenacity



Men's 2002 Alumni Team

(back row)

Brad Heidbuurt, Justin Cook, Al Vandonksergoed, Ron VanderHeide (front row)

James Walraven, Harry Blyleven, Terry Talsma, Mike Baker

* The team was coached by former coach Dr. John Byl



Women's 2002 Alumni Team

(back row)

Christy (Koning) Baker, Trish Heerewynen-Brouwer, Tracy VanDijk, Michelle VanBerkel

(front row)

Betty (Dykerman) Steenbeek, Mary Jane (Blyleven) Tigchelaar, Sue (Bylsma) Hellinga, Paula Zondag, Leanne (Yzerman) Kuizenga proved to be dominant factors as both the men's and women's alumni teams came out on top. However, the victories did not come easily against the strong varsity squads — it took five games in each match to determine the outcome.

The Athletic Department staff wishes to thank the varsity players, coaches and alumni for their enthusiasm and participation! It was a great night of volleyball, one that they hope to repeat soon.

The following day was the annual Alumni Volleyball tournament, which, for the third year in a row was won by the Flintstones.

The Athletic Department has confirmed that the 1st Annual Alumni-Varsity hockey game will take place on Saturday March 16, 2002 at 8:00 pm at the Wentworth Triple Rinks. Former varsity hockey players who wish to participate should contact the Athletic Department for further information. Come on out and relive the cherished memories of Redeemer Royals hockey!

Rex Redux: New mascot retains old name

edeemer's new mascot, the lion, which replaced the recently-retired (and rattily-attired) raccoon, will retain the name Rex. The decision was made recently by Al Brown, Director of Athletics and chair of the "Rename Rex Committee." After sifting through all the suggestions they received from students, alumni, staff and faculty, the committee decided to keep the name which has become synonymous with Redeemer athletics. "The overwhelming consensus was to keep Rex," Brown noted. "We're actually quite pleased that so many people took an interest in keeping that tradition alive."

The new Rex was made possible in part from the support of Redeemer alumni through the 2001 Alumni Appeal. Since being unveiled in September, Rex has been a familiar face during many

Nominations Needed

number of Directors of the Alumni Board will see their terms of service expire this September. The Alumni Board invites alumni to nominate themselves or others to serve on the Board. All alumni are eligible for nomination, and Board members usually serve a three year term. Those nominees who wish to allow their names to stand will be placed on a ballot in the June issue of *Images*, for election in September. For more information, please contact the Alumni Office at 905-648-2131, Ext. 4292, or via email at: alumnioffice@redeemer.on.ca

Graduate School Seminar

he second annual Graduate School Seminar, sponsored by the Alumni Association and the Student Life Department this January, gave current Redeemer students "the inside scoop" on the ins and out of graduate school. The session began with John Krueger, Redeemer's Career and Placement Coordinator, outlining what graduate school is and challenging students to honestly examine if they have the gifts and desire to succeed at that level of



PHOTO: Aaron Schaat '96 (Ph.D. candidate in Industrial/Organizational Psychology, University of Guelph), Steven Witteveen '95 (MBA/LL.B, Osgoode Law School), and Helen Vreugdenhil '87 (Ph.D. candidate in History, University of Toronto), share their experiences with Redeemer students as part of the Graduate School Social

education. Krueger also talked about the nuts and bolts of choosing the way. To Him be the glory!" |
a graduate school, and the application process.

Afterwards, a number of alumni who are currently in, or who have just completed, graduate school, participated in a panel discussion on their experiences with graduate school. The alumni discussed how Redeemer prepared them for pursuing a graduate degree, the surprises they found once they began their studies, what they wished they had known before they began, and the transition from a Christian-based education to a secular one. The discussion period carried over through dinner at communal meal.

Many former Redeemer students have successfully gone through graduate studies, thanks in part to the education they received at Redeemer. By taking advantage of the experiences of those alumni who "have gone before them," Redeemer students will be even more prepared for the challenges of graduate education.

Manias-Jackson Returns to World Championships

rances Manias-Jackson '96 continues to excel in competitive bodybuilding. Manias-Jackson, who is also Redeemer's Athletic Coordinator, competed in her fourth Canadian World Qualifier Bodybuilding Championships in Winnipeg MB, this past September, placing 2nd in the Middleweight division. That allowed her the opportunity to once again compete at the Women's International Federation of Bodybuilding World Championships October 26 - 29th in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

New trainer Marc Sauvestre pushed Manias-Jackson into her best condition ever, and it showed in the results. Competing in the Women's Lightweight division for the first time, she placed 7th, missing the final round by only 1 point — her best finish yet. It is also the best finish to date for any Canadian bodybuilder at an international competition.

Manias-Jackson is excited about continuing her training under the direction of Sauvestre, and is shooting for a top 3 placing at next year's World Championships in Brno, Czech Republic. Juggling work, training (often 2-4 hours per day), and other commitments can be a challenge. When asked how she keeps it all in balance, she says, "I must admit that without the support of my coworkers Betty Steenbeek (Dykerman '88) and Al Brown, the encouragement of the entire Redeemer body, and the continuing support of my husband Sean, I would struggle. God is faithful. He is not only continuing to bless me in my training and competing, but He continues to equip me for sharing the gospel and ministering to the women I have met and befriended along the way. To Him be the glory!"



Frances and her latest trophy.

Putting Theory and Faith Into Service

Redeemer Students at Ground Zero by: Tim Wolfert

rom November 17 - 25, 2001, eight Redeemer Social Work students and two of their professors put their theory, and their faith, to practice in the devastated ruins of New York City. Their work made a significant, tangible impact on the thousands they served. But the experience was also life-changing for each of the participants, and a testament to God's providence and care in the midst of pain and suffering.

On September 11, Patricia Slade, Assistant Professor of Social Work, was preparing to teach her class in Crisis Intervention when news of the tragedy broke. After the shock wore off, the students in that class began wondering what, if anything, they could do to help. Emily (Deelstra) Laverty '02 from Sarnia, ON, recalled the tension that many in the class felt: "On one hand, we were looking for something to do to help, but on the other hand, we were afraid - the entire situation seemed so daunting and overwhelming."

Then in October, Slade attended the board meeting and convention of the North American Association of Christians in Social Work in San Antonio, where she heard of student teams

working in disaster relief. After speaking with both students and faculty, she asked an officer from the New York City Salvation Army Corps if Canadian teams could be included. Several weeks later, after much negotiation and planning, Redeemer became the first Canadian university to be invited to assist in the recovery effort in New York City. Brenda Stephenson, Sessional Instructor in Psychology, joined Slade and the 8 students who applied and were selected to go on the trip.

The team worked with other groups of volunteers as part of the Salvation Army's Disaster Relief Services. For the first few days, the Redeemer students helped staff at Pier 94, a social service resource centre for people who had lost homes and jobs in the area surrounding the World Trade Centre. The team received an intense, but very brief, orientation, and was then thrust onto the front lines as case workers for one of the largest disaster relief operations ever seen in North America.

Their mandate was to provide some short-term financial assistance to those who had lost jobs or homes in the attacks. They were authorized by the Salvation The WTC Team. From 1-r (standing): Amy Rideout, Vanessa Guldemond, Henrietta

hundred people that week, and their goals were to spend as much time with each client as possible, and to ensure that no one left empty-handed. In fact, according to Kimberley Williams '02 from Brampton, ON, they quickly learned how to identify means and resources to ensure the victims received the maximum amount they were entitled to. "We were active advocates for the people that we saw. We didn't manipulate the system, but we did use the provisions of the system to our client's advantage." The Redeemer students were one half of a team that distributed over \$200,000 that week.

But the team also saw themselves as more than just a bank. "These are people who had lost everything," notes Vanessa Guldemond '02 of Lynden, ON. "Many were still in shock, and just needed to talk about what had happened to them and what they had lost. You couldn't see them as just case numbers to process - they were hurting people who needed time and attention."

That Thursday was US Thanksgiving. With the office closed for the holiday, the Redeemer team volunteered to serve



Army to distribute cash to cover expenses such as Hoekert, Kimberley Williams, Monique Ozimek, and Prof. Brenda Stephenson. unpaid bills, rent, and food. The team served several Kneeling: Ria (Vis) Kemper, Marsha Vanderkolk-Kooiman, Emily (Deelstra) Laverty. Missing from the group shot is photographer Prof. Patricia Slade.



One of the many memorials the team saw in NYC

The invitation to serve was given, and in obedience to the call we accepted. It was for God's purpose, not for any personal gain or glory.

felt God's hand guiding and sustaining them each step along the way. Roy Green, of Hamilton radio station CHML, interviewed giving Day some of the team shortly after they returned. When asked by meal to over 1000 Green why they went, Monique Ozimek '02 from Cambridge, ON, responded: "Our motivation was primarily to serve, to be examples people at of Christ to the people ... and to be used in any way we possibly Manhattan could." Williams concurs: "The invitation to serve was given, and Commuin obedience to the call we accepted. It was for God's purpose, not nity College. for any personal gain or glory." Many of the people whom they

The group can also point to many instances where God provided for their needs, including easing the anxiety they felt. They worried about being rejected, according to Henrietta Hoekert '02 of Lowell, MI, and Marsha Vanderkolk-Kooiman '02 from Hamilton, ON, recalled "the fear of not remembering your task, of failing those who needed help and were counting on you to provide it." But they found strength by relying on God's promises, and from just "standing in awe of what God was doing," says Kemper.

God also provided for the group in the details. Prof. Slade noted that everywhere the group went, "God provided community through the Madison Ave. Baptist Church where we worshiped that first Sunday, through group devotions, through those back home at Redeemer who upheld the team, and even through fellow workers. Every detail was a witness to God's faithfulness and protection."

While the team's goal was to serve others, they also realize how just how much they have been blessed by the experience, not just professionally, but spiritually as well. Williams sees this as another sign of how God uses obedient servants: "When God calls, it is not for the benefit of just one person; the faithful obedience of one blesses the entire body of Christ."

As such, the team does not see itself as doing anything more heroic than following God's direction. As Ozimek points out,

"A lot of the rescue workers that we met and interacted with in NY told us that they were just doing their jobs. In a sense, that was what we were doing - the job that God has assigned for us to do."

spent time greeting and talking with the guests, and helping out with the entertainment. At the end of the day, the team was overwhelmed by the immense outpouring of gratitude that they felt. "People were so appreciative, even for the smallest things," notes Amy Rideout '03 from Mount Pearl, NF. At the end of the week, the team was asked to help out at

had

helping ear-

been

the canteen at the Chief Coroner's Office, and in the Red Zone of Ground Zero - the heart of the ruins. In both locations, the team served police, firefighters, and other rescue workers who had been working 12 hour days for more than 2 months. As on Thanksgiving Day, they spent a lot of their time talking with and, more importantly, listening to, those whom they served, helping them cope with the destruction surrounding them.

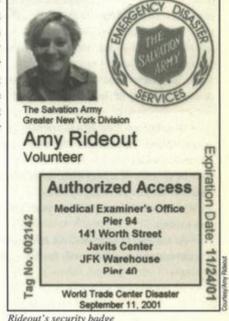
lier in the week came to the meal and were thrilled to see the

team. More than just scooping food on a canteen line, the students

That they were given so much responsibility is a measure of the respect the team earned. "The Salvation Army management often noted how well our students performed," notes Slade. "They treated their clients with respect and dignity, and were attentive to their needs and concerns, even if they fell outside of the team's immediate mandate."

According to a number of team members, that is due in part to the theory they have learned and skills they have developed in class over the years. "The listening skills we were taught came into play every day," says Ria (Vis) Kemper '02 of Waterdown, ON. The professional conduct the work demanded was another area in which the group was specifically trained. Others pointed to less tangible aspects of their studies. Guldemond noted that their education prepared them to be attentive to people's needs, and to know what to listen for and what to retain when making need assessments. And for Laverty, her training and education gave her the confidence to face the challenges of their work. "It's difficult to identify two or three courses or lessons and say 'That is what we applied in NYC," explains Rideout. "But the cumulative effect of my Social Work classes certainly prepared me for the work that I did."

Beyond the theory and courses, however, the team relied on their faith, and they are quick to recount the ways in which they



Rideout's security badge

Good Question!

by: Rita Klein-Geltink, Manager of Gift Planning



Ton and Tea Van Nes are supporting Redeemer through an annuity.

"In this world nothing is certain but death and taxes," said Benjamin Franklin. I would like to add one more item to that list: the benefits of an annuity. We've been hearing a lot about charitable gift annuities lately, but what exactly is an annuity?

An annuity is an arrangement under which a contributor transfers a certain sum of money in exchange for fixed, guaranteed payments for the rest of his or her life. A charitable gift annuity has the added benefit of providing a future gift for your charity of choice.

Ton and Tea Van Nes of Brampton, Ontario recently purchased such an annuity.

"We chose to purchase a charitable gift annuity for two reasons: we want to contribute to the continuation of Christian education and a future gift, such as our annuity provides for Redeemer University College, allows us to do so. And secondly, we like the security of a regular income which the annuity gives us."

Mr. and Mrs. Van Nes clearly identify the reasons for the current popularity of charitable gift annuities:

- The interest rate of the annuity is set upon purchase, guaranteeing the income for life — no risk, no worry, no management.
- In the case of a joint annuity, payments continue until the death of the last surviving spouse.
- All, or a large part of, your gift annuity income is tax exempt.
- At the end of your life, the remainder of the gift annuity capital becomes a gift for your favourite charities.

It's too bad Benjamin Franklin couldn't count on the certainty of an annuity. In addition to death and taxes, the guaranteed income and the future gift of a charitable gift annuity are certainties. Within the context of the certainty of God's promises and His faithfulness, we can use our resources in ways that honour Him, both today and into the future.

Redeemer offers annuities through Christian Stewardship Services. If you would like to receive a no-obligation Charitable Gift Annuity quote based upon your age and the current interest rate, feel free to contact us at Redeemer University College: 1-877-779-0913 or stewardship@redeemer.on.ca

"Good Question" is a regular feature of Images. Subsequent questions will deal with bequests, investing, life insurance, and other aspects of Christian stewardship. If you have a specific question you would like addressed, email us at stewardship@redeemer.on.ca.



600 Alden Road, Suite 315
Markham, Ontario, Canada L3R 0E7
Tel: (905) 947-9262 Toll Free: (800) 267-8890
Fax: (905) 947-9263
Web Site: www.csservices.ca
E-mail: admin@csservices.ca

Is There Room for Faith in the Environmental Movement?

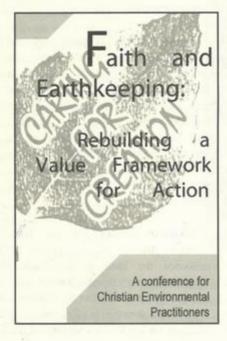
nvironmental concerns have been on Western society's agenda for decades. Christians have often been in the forefront of these discussions, especially in promoting the idea of stewardship as a framework for understanding how we interact with creation. according to Dr. Henry Brouwer, Professor of Chemistry at Redeemer, the impact of that faith-based perspective on the environmental movement has been eclipsed in recent years by a more individualistic, consumer-based ethic. "To a large measure, Christians have also bought into this mindset; that has left the church and other Christian organizations with little to say on such a fundamental issue as caring for the environment."

Examining the impact of this change in thinking is the goal of the third Caring for Creation conference, being held May 30 - June 2, at Redeemer University College. Entitled Faith and Earthkeeping: Rebuilding a Value Framework for Action, the conference will seek to address the place of faith in effective public and institutional environmental practice and ethics.

The conference features speakers and workshops on a wide range of environmental topics. "We expect to attract not just academics, but Christians who deal with environmental issues in their daily work and lives," notes Dr. Brouwer, who is co-chairing the conference with Elbert Van Donkersgoed, Strategic Policy Advisor with the Christian Farmers' Federation of Ontario. "Industry, non-governmental organizations, educators and the church all need to work together to promote effective

stewardship."

Workshops, field trips and formal discussions will deal specifically with issues such as water resource and land use management, and the effects of increased globalization. Further details and registration forms are available at the conference website: www.caringforcreation.ca, or by contacting Dr. Brouwer at Redeemer.



Organizing and participating in conferences is just one of the ways faculty share their research, find out what's happening in their fields of expertise, and network with colleagues. According to Dr. Elaine Botha, Redeemer's Director of Faculty Research, this is a valuable part of their work: "Faculty are required to teach, do research and be of service in and to the community. To support this, Redeemer has a commitment to support research and creative endeavour and to encourage interaction with the wider community. This is even more important in a small university because the smaller size of the faculty means less opportunity for critical communication and interaction."

Redeemer's faculty have participated in a number of conferences recently:

Dr. M. Goheen gave a keynote address entitled "Destruction and Vision: Two Sides of Faithfulness in Christian Education," for Christian Educators of Alberta annual convention, Lethbridge, Alberta. October 18, 2001.

Dr. J. Payton presented "The Reformation's Influence on the History of Ukraine," on October 26, 2001 at the "Sixteenth Century Studies Conference," held in Denver, Colorado on October 25-28, 2001.

Dr. J. Boersema attended the annual conference of the Christian Business Faculty Association held in Bourbonnais, Illinois, October 18-20, 2001.

Dr. J. Ellens directed a small conference funded by the Liberty Fund of Indianapolis, Indiana, of invited participants who discussed writings touching on Christian responses to the French Revolution in a topic entitled "Liberty, Natural Law, and Divine Revelation in Edmund Burke and G. Groen Van Prinsterer." The conference was held in Toronto on September 27-29, 2001.

Dr. G. Haas presented a paper entitled "Ethical Boundaries of Evangelicalism" at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological society in Colorado Springs, CO, Nov. 15, 2001

Personal Touch

Pete Scholtens '94 and Diana Scholtens (Mostert) '96 received a baby girl, Hannah Patricia, on July 30, 2001. She was welcomed into the world by her big brother Caleb, now two years old. Address: 5076 219A St., Langley, BC V3A 8P8

Michael Koke '90 and Sandra Koke (Brickell) are thankful for God's watchful care in the difficult delivery of their second son on December 4, 2001. He weighed 10lbs. 1.5oz - A big baby for big brother William!

Beth Reeves '95 is engaged to marry David James Cullen on March 9, 2002 in Winter Park, Florida. Beth teaches Second Grade at The Geneva School, where David is the principal of The Upper School. Address: 942 Gloriosa Ave., Winter Park, FL 32789

Heidi Thuss (Higgins) '99 and her husband Jason thank God for the blessing of another healthy daughter. Chloe Rebecca arrived October 29, 2001. She is a little playmate for big sister Lydia-Jane (Nov.4/99). Address: 1159 Katesville Dr., Kerwood, ON NOM 2B0; (519)-247-3476, h_thuss@hotmail.com

James Kralt '97 and Marilyn Kralt (Tosh) '97 are pleased to announce the birth of Evelyn May. She was born on October 26, 2001. James is still teaching at the Christian High School in Lacombe and Marilyn is at home enjoying their little girl. Address: 45 Garden Rd., Lacombe, AB T4L 1R8; (403)-782-3178

Paul Vanden Brink '97 and Jessica Vanden Brink (Van Gurp) '97 are happy to announce the arrival of their second child, Abigail Elizabeth. (April 19, 2001) Big brother Jonas (2) is thrilled to have her around. Jessica is enjoying life at home with the kids. Paul keeps himself busy with his new job as Youth Director at Springdale CRC. Address: 1365 River Rd., Bradford, ON L3Z 2A6; (905)-775-6369, pjvandenbrink@aol.com

Debra Vandermeer (Van Noord) '87, '95 is pleased to announce her marriage to Jeff Vandermeer on July 14, 2001. Debra is currently a teacher at Stratford District Christian School.

Jennifer Dreise (Dykstra) '97 and Geoff Dreise thank God for the safe arrival of their first child, a son, Isaiah Gordon, born July 12, 2001. Jennifer is on maternity leave from teaching French and Geography at Woodland Christian High School in Breslau. Geoff is working for the engineering firm, Hatch, in Mississauga. Address: 37 Windsor Dr., P.O. Box 278, St.George, ON NOE 1NO; (519)-448-9456

Jonathan Bremer '94 and Anita Bremer (Sikma) '93 are pleased to announce the birth of their second daughter, Carleigh Brooke, born on January 4, 2002. A little sister for Cassandra (20 months). Jonathan is a Regional Sales Manager for Joe Johnson Equipment Inc. and Anita is enjoying a maternity leave from teaching Grade 3 at Calvin Christian School in Dundas. Address: 36 Kelly St., P.O. Box 833, Waterdown, ON LOR 2H0; (905)-690-0845, bremer.aj@sympatico.ca

Ralph Pot '94 and Sara Pot (DeJonge) are pleased to announce the arrival of their first child, Emily Nell, born on October 22, 2001. Ralph continues to enjoy his job as a middle school teacher and coach at Calvin Christian School in Blaine, MN. Sara has switched from the middle school to the enrichment program (part-time) so she can stay home with Emily. Sara, Ralph and Emily invite you to stop by if you are in Minnesota! Address: 15 631/2 Way, Fridley, MN, 55432 USA; thepots@unique-software.com

| News of Interest |
|--|
| |
| Name: |
| Grad year: |
| Name (spouse, maiden): |
| |
| Grad year: |
| Address: |
| City: Postal: |
| |
| Phone: |
| Email: |
| |
| Would you like your address published? |
| News: |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| The second secon |
| |
| |
| Community of the property of the last of t |



Teaching a "Christian" Math Class

hen I think about my time at Redeemer, many things come to mind: living in the dorms, leading Kids' Club, playing intramural games, going to concerts and so on. I even remember attending several classes, including two math classes at McMaster as part of my math major.

Now the math department at Redeemer was not very large, and the number of people taking math programs was not that great. So the math majors, minors, and anyone who took a math course - well, we were a cosy bunch. But nothing like some of my computer classes. I remember one computer course that involved just four students. On occasion we would meet for tea in the prof's office (during class time, of course). That personal attention was quite impressive, although not without its shortcomings - missing class was not something that could be done anonymously.

I have always enjoyed the constancy of mathematics - how the laws discovered by mathematicians reflect the Creator of these laws. However, during my seven years of teaching math,

mathematics is not affected by a Christian worldview; however, the "why" is.

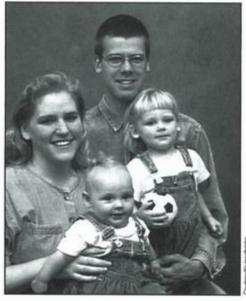
I have been fascinated by the I believe the "how" of changing approach to teaching mathematics. Although the laws still hold true, technology, especially graphing calculators and computers, have changed the mathematics classroom. For example,

instead of taking hours to graph a problem, students now spend more time interpreting a graph that is easily drawn using technology. As a teacher I find these changes interesting and challenging.

I also remember discussing the relationship between math and Christianity during math classes at Redeemer. Were my math classes at Redeemer really different from my math classes at McMaster? This is a question I still deal with as a math teacher in a Christian school, and I thank my math professors at Redeemer for helping me answer it. I believe the "how" of mathematics is not affected by a Christian worldview; however, the "why" is. God created this world and the laws that govern it. We discover these laws, organize them, and use them to further God's kingdom on earth. Although the math I learned has been important, I have really appreciated being able to explain how my "Christian" math

class is different than other math classes.

Ah, and now some more of my important Redeemer moments come back: dorm raids, all-nighters, meeting my wife (this is a chronological list, not an order-of-importance list), air bands...I wonder if those Kraft Dinner boxes are still in the attic of Dorm 1?



Dave Kruisselbrink '93 teaches the hows and whys of math at Edmonton Christian High School. He and his wife Kathryn (Bock) '95 live in Edmonton with daughters Rachel and Breanna.

Redeemer University College Concert Choir and Guests perform:



Works of

Johannes Brahms



Choir:

"Liebeslieder Waltzes"

All' meine Herzgedanken (Spirit Divine, Attend our prayers)

How lovely is Thy Dwelling Place (Requiem)

Directed by: Dr. Christiaan Teeuwsen





Valerie Tryon - Piano Jack Mendelssohn - Cello Steve Pierre - Clarinet Members of ChamberWorks